

A SWEETHEART AT THIRTY

The Story of a Woman's Transformation
BY MARION RUBINCAM

THE CLIMAX.

Synopsis of Preceding Chapters.

At 35 Aunt Enid Haines looks 50, and is considered by her family and the village as a hopeless old maid. The family consists of a critical sister-in-law, Esther; Jim, Enid's brother; and three grown children, Laura, James and Violet. Enid is taken from this hopeless rut by Violet, who wants to go to college. Enid gives Vi her little legacy and they go to the city together.

There they awake to possibilities of life—Enid begins to make herself young again and pretty. Vi matures, hearing of his case comes up. Vi is in love with Bud Pearson, of whom her family disapproves; Enid falls in love with Francis Meade, Bud's employer.

Bud falls in with a crowd of unscrupulous men, and when he is robbed of some money he is carrying for his firm, everyone believes him guilty. Enid and Francis become engaged, and try to help Bud when the hearing of his case comes up. Vi is heartbroken. When the trial comes up Bud is caught in a lie and things look bad for him.

THE CLIMAX.

Chapter 97.
I'll never forget those few days following that Christmas. The special morning when Esther and myself came perilously near a quarrel is particularly clear to me.

For it was another milestone in my career. Before, I would never have dared answer her as I did. Indeed, for some years while I was living with her, I would scarcely have dared to disagree with her—even mentally—while as for standing up and telling her she was wrong! Well, I could not have done it.

But now I was out of my shell. I had re-made myself, and I was happy. I had sufficiently developed myself, in a comparatively short time, to the point where I could take my place by the side of such a man as Francis Meade. And I was happy—far happier than I ever thought it was possible to be.

I wanted to give some of this to Esther. Why shouldn't she do what I had done? I looked at her—but no, there was a certain complacency, a certain stubbornness about her. I believe she liked being what she was. "Jim won't ever consent to Vi marrying Bud," she said finally. And in her tones was that curious pleasure which I never could understand.

Some women who are well meaning, and charitable, and "good" have this incomprehensible quality—a certain virtuous pleasure in giving pain to others. It is because they have let bitterness and disappointment eat into their souls, and where they have missed something sweet in life, they grudge it to others.

I had seen this in Esther before—but Jim, who hated the Pearrolls, intended to make things unpleasant—and if Esther intended to back him up, why it only made the whole affair harder for us.

"She might marry without his consent," I answered. "After all, she is no child. And this is the twentieth century. Jim sometimes thinks we are back in medieval times." "She might, but I doubt it," Esther said. "Vi is very sweet, but she is soft, too, and I don't think she would do anything directly against her father's orders."

I wondered. Violet's feminine charm was partly this sweet yieldingness—but the girl was very much in love. Highly romantic, and quite apt to run off and marry Bud in spite of her family.

"I am going to send her through college," I told Esther. "I haven't the money myself now, but Francis likes her very much, and he will be glad to stand the cost of it. Only—I want to adopt her."

It came as a surprise to me, this statement of mine. I had thought that Vi and I were so close to each other in our relationship of aunt and niece, that we could not be closer. But suddenly I knew I wanted to feel that she was my daughter—this child who

had been in my arms when she was a day old, and who had grown up more under my care than under her mother's. Violet was almost my child—it had been my influence from her babyhood that had made her different from those others.

Esther looked at me, her mouth opening a little, as it always did when she was surprised.

"Jim will never consent," she said, taking refuge once more in Jim's proposed disagreeableness.

"I will get around Jim," I promised.

"Will you consent?"

"If Jim does," she said.

"Esther!" I cried in sudden impatience. "Will you or not? Must you always go by what Jim says and thinks? Suppose he happened to be wrong?"

"I guess I know my duty, Enid Haines," said Esther, in a manner meant to be thoroughly crushing.

And I did not answer.

But that afternoon I managed to have a minute alone with Francis, and I told him what I wanted.

"This is a big step to take without consulting you," I said. "But you told me once that you wanted to send Vi on through college, and that you would not mind her living with us."

"But if you don't want me to adopt her," I said. "I won't say anything."

Tomorrow—New Evidence.

BEAUTY CHATS

BOUDOIR ACCESSORIES.

Every woman quite naturally wants to see herself dressed as the lovely ladies in the fashion pages dress. I think this applies more to negligees and underthings than to outdoor dresses, if I may judge from the letters I receive on the subject.

It's probably the intense femininity of it—a woman's boudoir is usually pictured as such a luxurious little retreat, her boudoir accessories and her negligees are made so alluring. Yet some of us—most of us probably—can't afford either the time or the money if it requires to enjoy these things.

So if we want them, we must use our wits to get them. And it really doesn't take a great deal of work to achieve rather good results. Old evening gowns, made up with perhaps a plain slip of chiffon over them to hide their shabbiness, make lovely negligees—and for that matter, the cheapest cotton crepe comes in lovely plain colors and makes up very well indeed. Old dance slippers make nice boudoir slippers for they can be cleaned, or stained, or even painted, to make them fresh again—and boudoir slippers never cost a great deal, even when new. Boudoir caps can be made from odds and ends of lace and ribbon, if one is a little ingenious.

Cheap furniture can be enameled in soft colors and the results are amazing. Figured carpets can be dyed or painted at home with hot strong dye, to bring them into the new decorative scheme. And do you know that cheap wooden toilet articles can be covered with brocaded silks and finished with

more. I know my duty!" And I looked up at him and laughed at my own imitation of Esther.

"Your duty is to be happy," he said, his eyes warm and tender as he looked at me. "And mine to make you so. And if having Violet as an adopted child—"

"I—I must get her away from those people!" I exclaimed. "Violet has great possibilities, but not enough force in herself to develop unless someone helps her."

"I know," he said, and kissed me to assure me that it was all right.

He went home alone then, leaving me his big car and his driver, so I could take Esther around and show her the city. And it was not until evening that I could tell Vi about it.

"It wouldn't be different from living with us as we had planned," I urged. "Except that if I adopted you I would have the right to do things for you—the legal right, I mean—that I haven't now. But if you feel I am taking you away from your own family—"

"I can love you both, just as I love you now," Vi said sweetly. And put her arms around her mother and then me, and kissed us both. But I saw in her eyes that she was glad in many ways, because of the new arrangement. And I, too, felt a little selfish pleasure at the idea. I might never have children of my own—but after all, Violet, with all her gold and blue beauty, all her sensitiveness and her fineness, her appreciation of the worth while things of life—was almost my child.

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would advise you to see your physician about it. I can, if you wish, send you the formula for a pilocarpine hair tonic. This stimulates the color cells and helps prevent grayness, and I think it would be very useful in your case.

Good-Luck—Pimples come from internal conditions. You might try taking three cakes of compressed yeast every day, or else take a large teaspoonful of agar-agar once every day. This can be mixed with your food, or softened and drunk in water.

All inquiries addressed to Miss Forbes in care of the "Beauty Chats" department will be answered in these columns in their turn. This requires considerable time, however, owing to the great number received. So, if a personal or quicker reply is desired, a stamped and self-addressed envelope must be enclosed with the question.

Third M. E. Church Presents Pageant

The Epworth League of the Third M. E. church presented the pageant, "The Awakening of China," Sunday night to a crowded house. All seats were filled and standing room crowded. The cast showed unusual ability, and were cordially received by the appreciative audience. Before the first act, the pastor, Rev. Gates, led the congregational singing of old, well known songs.

Between the acts of the pageant, Mr. Wuang, recently from Shanghai, China, addressed the audience briefly as to the new forward movements that are making such rapid strides in the awakening of China. An offering was taken at all services for the support of Dr. Lowery, the Richmond Districts.



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League representative in Peking, China. About Easter, the League expects to present another pageant entitled, "The City Beautiful."

Mary Wright Funeral Held in Greenville, Monday

GREENVILLE, O., Feb. 7.—Mrs. Mary Wright, 72, an aged and respected widow residing at 625 Martin street, this city, died at her home late Friday night from a complication of diseases. Her husband preceded her in death two years ago, and she is survived by two brothers. Funeral services were held this afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Mennonite church, with Rev. Lambert officiating. Interment was in the Greenville cemetery.

Motorists Instructed to Obtain Licenses

There was "weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth" in city court Monday morning when auto drivers who

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had failed to secure 1921 license plates for their machines appeared. Most of the offenders had cards showing that they had applied for a license within the past few days. Two were given the penalty of the law, \$1 and costs which totals \$7. Police were continuing the summoning of violators of the law Monday afternoon, and indications were that even a larger number

would make the greeting "Good morning, Judge" Tuesday.

HOOSIER WRITER DIES
CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 7.—Herschel S. Hall of Cleveland, O., well known as a writer of novels and short stories, died here after a protracted illness. He was born in Danville, Ind., in 1874.

RUGS \$33.75
Wonderful Values

All our rugs have been reduced for clearance in this sale and offer you some wonderful opportunities to pick up some rare bargains. The lot includes Wiltons, Axminsters, Brussels and hundreds of others in the latest designs and shades. Come early and get your pick of these values—the prices will surprise you.

Romey Furniture Co.
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12 N. 9th St.
Jay
QUALITY JEWELER

Special Values for Tuesday

While attending the Corn Show, save money on your shoe and footwear purchases. Come over to our store and benefit by the special values offered throughout the store on all footwear.

A Few of the Many Extra Values for Tuesday



Women's Brown Calf Shoes

Military heels and Goodyear welt soles, \$8.50 and \$9.00 values—**\$5.85** for Tuesday at

Girls' and Boys' Shoes

All solid leather in brown and black, \$5 and \$6 values.....**\$3.45 and \$3.85**

Men's Dress Shoes

6 STYLES, ALL DOUGLASS—Black Kid Tramp Last, Black Kid Dress Last, Calf Tramp Last, Black Calf English Last, Brown Calf English Last, Brown Calf Broad Toe, \$8 and \$9 values—Tuesday **\$5.95**

Extra Special in BOOTS

A pure gum all-red Boot—**\$3.95** for Tuesday

B AND B SHOE STORE
807 MAIN

J. V. BURTON

J. E. BILLS

Heart Problems

Dear Mrs. Thompson: If you were a fellow with a girl and she would not ask you in when you called to see her or to take her to the theatre, what would you do? If I don't walk in, I will have to stand outside even in the coldest weather. When I do go in she never asks me to be seated. She is a fine girl and I like her. I don't dance and neither does she. I tried for a per mission to call regularly, but she said she did not trust me or any boy. Is it proper to take hold of the girl's arm when walking on the street, or is it her place to take hold of your arm?—H. J. M.

If she does not encourage your attention, the wisest thing for you to do is to drop the affair. Judging from your letter, she doubts your sincerity. If she has known you for only a short time, you cannot blame her for this. Try to cultivate her acquaintance by proving to her that you are sincere in your intentions and are honorable. It is proper to take hold of the girl's arm in assisting her at the curb. If there is need of protection, she may take hold of your arm.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: I am a married lady. My husband works on the railroad and we are still living together. There is a girl that speaks to him every time she sees him, which seems to make trouble between us. Please tell me what to do.

BROKEN HEART.
Ask him not to let her interfere with your happiness. You must be kind to him, so that your personality will be so strong that he will not be allured by other women.

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SPRING DRESSES

Featuring a very interesting and extensive selection of newest modes, attractively priced and grouped specially for

Monday and Tuesday

\$19.75 and \$25

Tricotines and Twills in Blouse Back, Box, Ripple, Flare, Straightline, Belted and Mannish effects, as well as embroidered, beaded, braided, pleated and other models.

Navy, Brown and Spring Colorings Are Offered

Sizes for Misses.....16 to 20
Sizes for Women.....34 to 46

All are beautifully silk-lined

SPECIAL

New Spring Suits

A special purchase and sale of exceptional styles, qualities and values in Serge is offered Tuesday. All colors and sizes. Many styles from which to choose. All lined with silk. Choice—

\$25.00

VIST THE CORN SHOW TONIGHT and TUESDAY

